



COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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JAMES F. STAHL
Chief Engineer and General Manager

December 7, 2006

Mr. Lester Snow, Director
California Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836, Room 1115-1
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Mr. Snow:

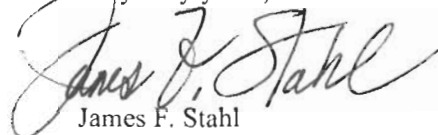
**Support for Proposition 50, Chapter 8, Round 1 Proposed \$25 Million
Funding Award For the Greater Los Angeles County IRWMP**

On behalf of the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation Districts), I am writing in support of the proposed recommendation to provide \$25 million for the Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (LA IRWMP) under Proposition 50, Chapter 8, Round 1. By way of background, the Sanitation Districts are a confederation of 24 individual special districts providing wastewater and solid waste services to over 5 million people in Los Angeles County, including 78 cities and unincorporated territory within the County. Additionally, the Sanitation Districts serve as a member of the Leadership Committee that has been guiding the LA IRWMP effort, and our staff has participated in 3 of the 5 subregional planning efforts within the Greater Los Angeles County Region.

The Sanitation Districts would like to thank the Department of Water Resources for awarding a \$1.5 million Proposition 50 planning grant to this region in 2005, which was matched by local funds and enabled the expeditious development of an IRWMP in the Greater Los Angeles County Region. The LA IRWMP process has led to an unprecedented level of cooperation and joint planning by many local and regional entities through the Greater Los Angeles County Region. The LA IRWMP sets ambitious goals to ensure adequate future water supplies to the burgeoning urban population in greater Los Angeles, while at the same time setting a framework for working together on many shared water resource strategies, including water quality improvements, critical water infrastructure repair and replacement, and habitat and open space enhancements. The proposed funding award of \$25 million will provide important seed money that will be leveraged at a better than 3:1 ratio to bring 13 water resource projects in the Greater Los Angeles County Region to fruition at a total cost of nearly \$113 million. Two of these projects – a marshland enhancement project and a recycled water ultraviolet disinfection project – are being undertaken by the Sanitation Districts for a total cost of over \$10 million, with \$2.4 million to be provided by the proposed grant. We believe that these projects are excellent examples of projects that implement integrated water management strategies as envisioned by the Department of Water Resources in the implementation of Proposition 50, Chapter 8.

In conclusion, we respectfully urge the Department of Water Resources to approve the recommended \$25 million in Round 1 funding for the LA IRWMP.

Very truly yours,


James F. Stahl

JFS:drs